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Abstract of the Disclosure

A CMOS imager and non-volatile memory are integrated on a single substrate along with logic and support circuitry for decoding and processing optical information received by the CMOS imager. A protective layer covers the non-volatile memory contained on the substrate for blocking light received by the CMOS imager. The protective layer can be a metal layer used as an interconnect over other areas of the substrate or an opaque layer provided during the fabrication process. Integrating a CMOS imager, non-volatile memory and peripheral circuitry for decoding and processing optical information received by the CMOS imager allows for a single chip image sensing device, such as a digital camera.

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